

STATINTL

TOLEDO, OHIO  
BLADEE. 181,542  
S. 182,833

OCT 22 1935

Out Of Bounds

THERE is ample reason for thinking that the Central Intelligence Agency oversteps legitimate bounds, even for a cloak and dagger outfit, in its far-ranging secret activities. This newspaper has consistently advocated a more effective system of congressional check on the powerful agency, which is a position also supported by Ohio's Sen. Stephen Young.

Nevertheless, Senator Young himself was out of bounds when he came back from a trip to South Viet Nam saying that he had learned that the CIA hired South Vietnamese to disguise themselves as Viet Cong and commit atrocities—killing and raping—in order to discredit Communists.

The senator was quoted by the Associated Press as first telling newsmen he had been so informed by a CIA man. Later he denied saying the information came from this source and said he got it from an unnamed American military officer. The Blade's own Washington bureau stated that the senator, in relaying the rumor on Tuesday, had added that he didn't believe it.

Whatever mixup there was on who told what to whom, it was wrong of the senator to give public utterance to a report so damaging to the United States unless he could back it up or, at least, was persuaded of its truth. The known flubs of the CIA have done enough harm without spreading horror stories.

We have often expressed our admiration for Senator Young's courage in speaking his piece, whether it was popular or not. This time, to our regret, the redoubtable Mr. Young just banged his gums.